

Reedsburg Police Department

Annual Report



2006

Timothy M. Becker
Chief of Police

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Staffí

Officer	Primary Assignment	Unit
Chief Timothy M. Becker	Administration	100
Sergeant Garry Zellmer	B Shift Commander	107
Sergeant Thomas Peters	A Shift Commander	110
Sergeant Glenn Rehberg	C Shift Commander	121
Detective Andrew Stelter	Investigations	127
Officer Bernard Jernander	Patrol	103
Officer Peggy Porter	Patrol	111
Officer Scott Peterson	Patrol	112
Officer Darrin Frye	School Liaison	115
Officer John Trago	Patrol	117
Officer Patrick Hoekstra	Patrol	125
Officer Andrew Foesch	K9/ Patrol	126
Officer Patrick Cummings	Patrol	128
Officer Richard Wolf	Patrol	129
Officer Timothy Knuth	Patrol	130
Officer Summer Geffert	Patrol	134
Officer Martin Pugh	Patrol	135
Communications:		
Chris Blood	Manager	502
Amber Hoefs	Assistant Manager	511
Mary Schroeder	Operator	504
Zachary Hoege	Operator	517
Diane Fry	Operator	520
Lynn Petersen	Operator	521
Linda Henderson	Operator	518
Erik Knull	Operator	513
Edward Pohlman III	Operator	519
Scott Buhrow	Chaplain	700

A Message from the Chief

Honorable John Deitrich
Mayor of the City of Reedsburg
Members of the Common Council
Administrator Lori Curtis,

On behalf of the men and women of the Reedsburg Police Department, it is an honor to submit to you the 2006 Annual Report of the Reedsburg Police Department.

The one word that would describe 2006 would be "change." Chief Wilbur Abel retired after nearly 30 years of service to the City, the last 15 years as Chief of Police.

Sergeant Garry Zellmer temporarily guided the Police Department as Interim Chief of Police until my appointment on May 22, 2006.

It is a unique challenge to have three Chiefs, with decidedly different leadership techniques, guiding the Department in one calendar year. This was, however, accepted well by staff and Sgt. Zellmer should be commended for his efforts to make this as seamless a transition as possible.

It has taken a while for the Police Department and I to get used to each other but they have put up with me and helped me along the entire way. Although, again, there is a bit of a difference in the leadership styles of Chief Abel as compared to me, I am certain that the staff will keep me in line as learn how things are done in Reedsburg as I continue to settle in.

It is difficult to come into a new atmosphere and not want to change everything in an effort to feel more comfortable. I have resisted that temptation to a certain degree. There were a few things that I did change and with Departmental support, they proved to be for the best. We have had a busy year with increases in activity and requests for service. Please review this report for details of that increased workload. Also, we have several things to look forward to as we move ahead into 2007.

I would like to thank the employees of the Reedsburg Police Department for making 2006 a very exciting and productive year. It is my hope that this continues well into the future. I encourage you to contact me with any question you have about this report.

Timothy M. Becker
Chief of Police

The Year in Reviewí

There were many issues that befell the Reedsburg Police Department in 2006, these are a sampling:

- Criminal Clearance Rate rose from (2005) 29.4% to (2006) 44.1%
- Calls for Service rose from (2005) 7490 to (2006) 9445
- Total activity rose 20.82%
- Adult arrests rose 4.46%
- Juvenile apprehensions rose 18.75%
- Traffic complaints/citations rose 85.34% based on grant participation.
- Reedsburg Police arrested 109 drunk drivers.
- Successful Fall Session of the Citizens Police Academy

Calls by Shiftí

CROSS POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS POLICE

A ó Shift:

A-Shift, or Dayshift, is commanded by Sgt. Tom Peters. Sgt. Peters oversees the patrol officers on this shift as well as the School Liaison Officer. A-Shift responded to 3,678 calls for service.

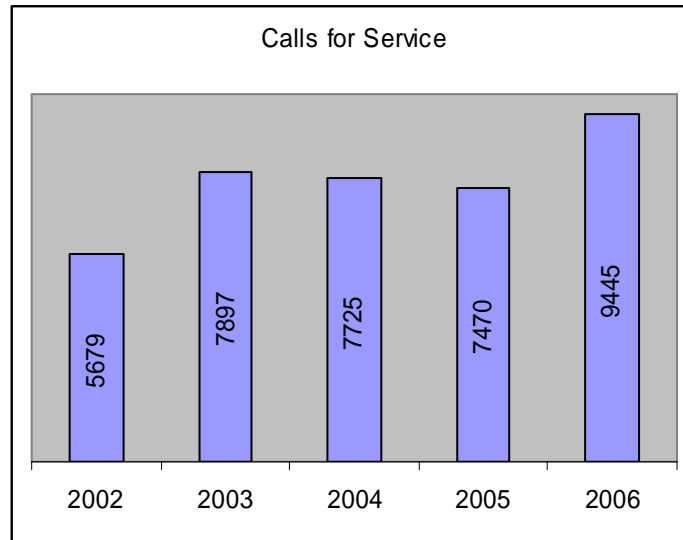
B-Shift:

B-Shift is often the busiest shift and has the most officers assigned to it for that reason. Sgt. Garry Zellmer commands the B-Shift. Sgt. Zellmer is responsible for supervising the patrol officers as well as the department's detective. B-Shift responded to 4,379 calls for service in 2006.

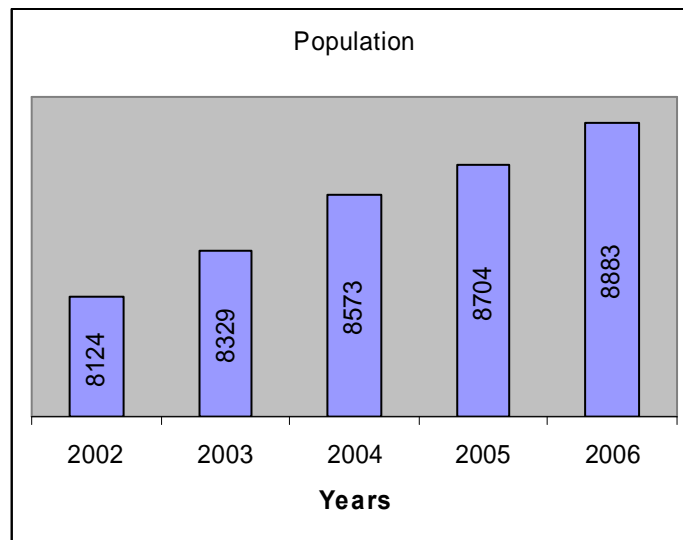
C-Shift:

Sgt. Glenn Rehberg commands the C-Shift, which can often be the most volatile of the shifts. C-Shift is often known as night-shift. Sgt. Rehberg performs functions such as tavern checks and business checks. In addition to these responsibilities, Sgt. Rehberg supervises the patrol officers assigned to his shift which includes the K9 Unit. C-Shift responded to 2,716 calls for service.

Calls for Service

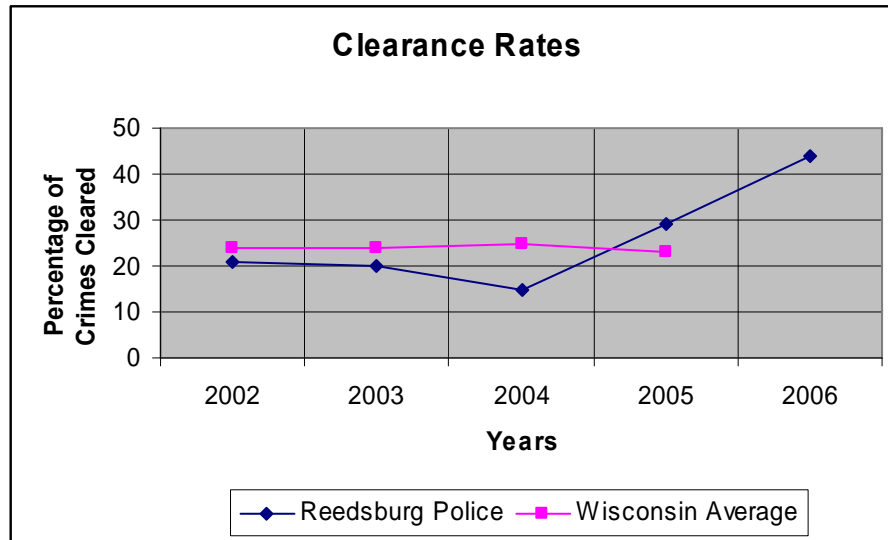


The Police Department realized an increase in calls for service from 2005 to 2006. In 2005 calls for service averaged 466 per sworn position. In 2006 the calls for service averaged 555 calls per sworn position.



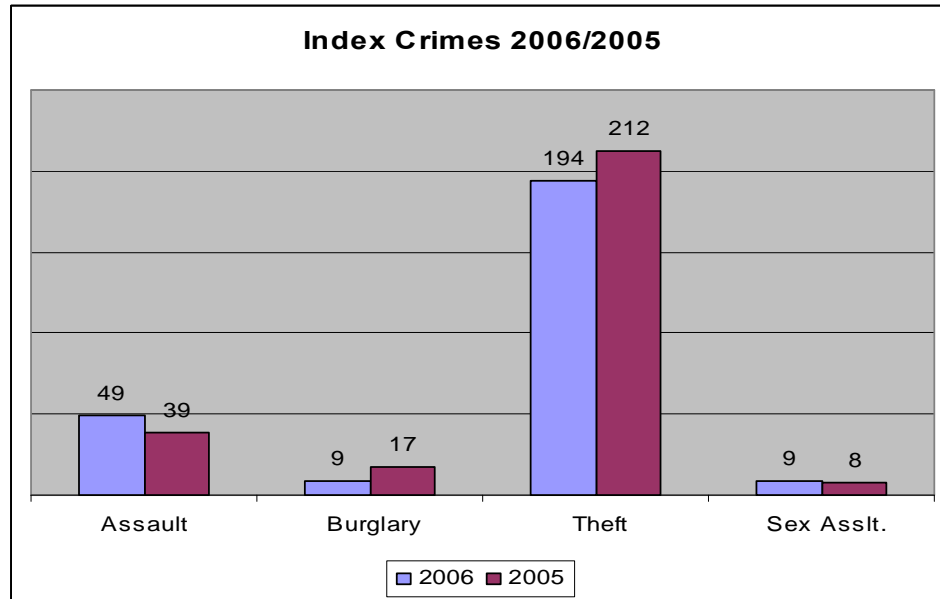
Demands for service, quite naturally, follow population rates. The higher the population the larger the call loads. This was very evident in 2006 as the Department averaged 1.06 calls per capita. In addition to the number of calls increasing, the seriousness of calls is also increasing. This requires officers spending more time and support to dispose of these calls.

Clearance Rates

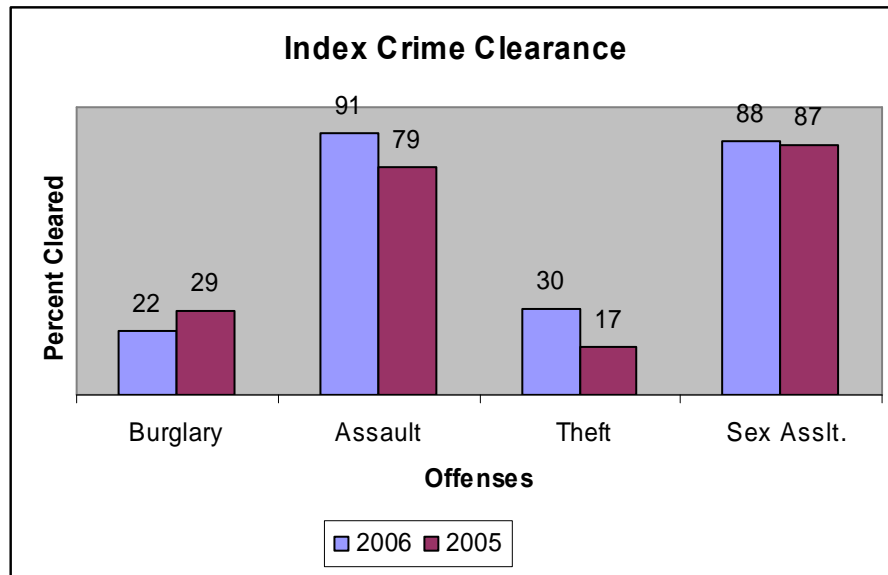


It is often very difficult to prevent all crimes. An important part of law enforcement is holding those committing crimes responsible for their actions. The Reedsburg Police Department is beginning to consistently outpace the Wisconsin average for crime clearances. Although it is typically the job of the Detective Bureau to complete follow-up investigations and clear crimes, in Reedsburg, we have only one Detective and much of the follow-up is left up to call-taking patrol officers. As the Department gets busier, it is more difficult to require patrol officers to complete follow-up as they are constantly fielding requests for immediate service. In an effort to maintain or increase clearance rates, the Department will need to add additional investigators.

Index Crimesí



Index crimes are described as the most serious of crimes and Reedsburg has had a clearance rate increase in all but one category. Although clearance rates are increasing, they are not acceptable. Strategies will be reviewed to increase those rates to a more acceptable level.



Crime and Arrests



Arrests and Apprehensions	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Change 05 to 06
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ADULT

Burglary	3	4	-25.00%
Narcotics	76	41	85.37%
Theft	29	37	-21.62%
Criminal Damage	17	34	-50.00%
Weapons Violations	2	1	100.00%
Battery	48	28	71.43%
Warrants	176	177	-0.56%
Disorderly Conduct	164	191	-14.14%
Liquor Law Violation	97	74	31.08%
Obstructing an Officer	39	30	30.00%
Worthless Checks	526	525	0.19%
Trespass	3	6	-50.00%
Miscellaneous	86	64	34.38%
TOTAL ADULT ARRESTS	1266	1212	4.46%

JUVENILE

Recovered Runaway	52	46	13.04%
Curfew Violations	23	38	-39.47%
Theft	16	22	-27.27%
Disorderly Conduct	42	23	82.61%
Truancy	65	43	51.16%
Smoking Violation	36	26	38.46%
Vandalism	15	12	25.00%
Weapons Violations	0	1	
Liquor Law Violations	24	17	41.18%
Trespassing	3	10	-70.00%
Obstructing an Officer	5	0	
Narcotics	7	8	-12.50%
Burglary	7	6	16.67%
Battery	9	4	125.00%
Miscellaneous	19	16	18.75%
TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS	323	272	

TOTAL CRIMINAL ARRESTS	1589	1484	7.08%
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Statistics

Use of Force Incidents:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Alcohol</u>
04-11-06	8:47pm	Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest	Pepper Spray	No
05-06-06	2:27am	Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest	Pepper Spray	Yes
06-12-06	2:30am	Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest/P&P	Pepper Spray	Yes
08-11-06	4:37pm	Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest	Pepper Spray	Yes
08-18-07	9:00pm	Battery to Officers/Resisting Arrest	Pepper Spray	Yes
11-11-06	1:46am	Disorderly Conduct/Resisting Arrest	Pepper Spray	Yes
11-25-06	4:13pm	Battery to Officer/Resisting Arrest/DC	Pepper Spray	No
11-26-06	1:12am	Battery/Resisting/DC/Bail Jumping	Pepper Spray	Yes

Other Agency Assists:

Reedsburg Police Department has assisted other law enforcement agencies a total of 351 times in 2006, which is up from 215 in 2005. The Police Department is honored to assist outside agencies and frequently requests assistance from those same agencies.

Traffic Enforcement/Accidents:

The Reedsburg Police Department participated in three Wisconsin traffic programs in 2006. These programs concentrated on OWI and Seatbelt violations. Traffic incidents rose by 80% which is directly responsible for an overall decrease in motor vehicle accidents by 20%. Although traffic is often looked at negatively, you cannot argue the results of increased safety and decreased property damage. This is an area that we still need to concentrate on in 2007.

Looking Ahead

The Police Department has several changes planned for 2007. Here are some of them:

The Department will replace the current Smith and Wesson Sigma series handguns and replace them with Glock 22 handguns. The Sigmas are 15 years old and are experiencing severe malfunctions.



The Department will implement the use of an Electronic Control Device. This device is a Taser X26. The Taser is used to create muscular dysfunction in persons involved in combative and/or resistive behavior. These tools are used to reduce officer and offender injury due to physically confrontational situations. Each Taser will be equipped with TaserCam which will begin recording audio and video as soon as the Taser is armed.



The Department will change squad design to a more traditional black and white scheme. This is the most recognizable police design and pays homage to our law enforcement past.

Looking Aheadí cont.



The Department also changed the shoulder patch. The new design accurately reflects the department's beginnings in 1868 while still illustrating the long-time Department motto of "Oath, Mission, and Code." The patch is highlighted by a black and white design with red and royal blue highlights.



In preparation to the approved Reedsburg Municipal Court, the Department is switching to new Records Management Software and Computer Aided Dispatch Software. This new software will enable the seamless transfer of data from records to the new court. This will assist in saving time and manpower by reducing data entry to a one-time event, thereby reducing the possibility of errors.